



Iowa Department of Human Services

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INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1743-MC-FFS

DATE: November 10, 2016

TO: Iowa Medicaid Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Providers and Targeted Case Managers

APPLIES TO: Managed Care and Fee-for-Service

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Limitations of HCBS Home Delivered Meals

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

Home Delivered meals are a covered Medicaid benefit for the following HCBS Waivers:

- AIDS/HIV
- Elderly
- Health & Disability

Meals covered under this service are designated, and billed, by the following codes:

- Morning: code S5170 UF
- Noon: code S5170 UG
- Evening: code S5170 UH
- Liquid Supplement: code S5170 UJ

Following are the Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) citations for the limitations on meals as found in **78.34(11)** , **78.37(8)**, and **78.38(6)**:

Home-delivered meals. Home-delivered meals are meals prepared elsewhere and delivered to a member at the member's residence.

a. Each meal shall ensure the member receives a minimum of one-third of the daily recommended dietary allowance as established by the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences. The meal may also be a liquid supplement that meets the minimum one-third standard.

b. When a restaurant provides the home-delivered meal, the member is required to have a nutritional consultation. The nutritional consultation includes contact with the restaurant to explain the dietary needs of the member and what constitutes the minimum one-third daily dietary allowance.

c. A maximum of two meals is allowed per day. A unit of service is a meal.

Chapter 79.1(2) for Home-delivered meals indicates that a maximum of 14 meals per week can be billed to Medicaid.

In addition the department stresses that neither Medicaid nor Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) can be billed for more units of any meal (morning, noon, evening, or liquid supplement) than the days of the month. For example, 31 noon meals should not be billed for the month of February nor should 31 evening meals be billed for the month of June. These months do not include 31 days.

All providers, case managers, and Community Based Case Managers (CBCM) must be aware of the program limitations around this service. Providers should not be billing the IME or an MCO for meals that exceed either the 14 meals per week limitation or for meals that exceed the number of days per month. Providers that are found to have inappropriately billed will be subject to payment recoupment.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909 or email imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.